

STAFF PROPOSAL FOR 2013-14

BASE ATTENDANCE ASSIGNMENT PLAN

September 18, 2012

1. Base attendance areas:

- All schools would have a defined base attendance area that considers
 - o student achievement
 - o stability
 - o proximity
 - o school capacity
 - o subdivision, neighborhood, and ITRE planning region boundaries
 - o anticipated growth over the next several years (using ORED ITRE projections, historical student enrollment data)
- Every residential address would have an elementary, middle, and high school base assignment.
- Base assignments would be made at one of their proximate schools to the extent possible.
- Once the base attendance area is established, schools whose composite performance scores fall more than ten percentage points below the district average will be targeted for additional resources brought to bear through the Office of School Performance and the Office of Transformation.

2. Grandfathering of existing assignments:

- All current students can grandfather at their current school with their current level of district transportation through the grade span of their school. (Provided the family remains at their current domicile.)

- Feeder middle school and high school assignments made during the 2012-13 school year will be honored. District transportation is not guaranteed.

3. Calendar/grade configuration modifications:

- Alston Ridge ES would expand to four tracks
- Highcroft ES would expand to four tracks
- Green ES would convert to a traditional calendar school
- Vance ES would be single-track, track 4 schools
- North Garner MS would be a single-track, track 4 school
- East Garner ES would be a traditional calendar school

4. Magnet/proximity percentages:

- Joyner ES, Underwood ES, Wiley ES would be Group 3 magnets – 20/80 magnet/base
- Partnership ES would be a Group 1 magnet – 55/45 magnet/base
- Green ES, Fox ES, and Carroll MS would be Group 2 magnet schools. – 45/55 magnet/base
- New families and existing families with a change of address would go directly to their base school for the level of their student to enroll.
- New families and existing families can attend their base school or request a change in assignment through the Open Enrollment process.

5. Base Declaration Period:

- Existing students not currently attending their base school would declare their intention to return to their base school during this online application period.
- Students participating in the Base Declaration will have a guaranteed seat at their base school for the new school year. (Unless the school becomes fully capped based on numbers requesting to return to their base school.)
- Students wishing to return to their base school when their base is fully capped must request this during the Base Declaration Period AND must meet the domicile criteria outlined in Board Policy 6204.
- The Base Declaration Period will pre-cede the Magnet and Open Enrollment application periods.

6. Capping enrollment at crowded schools:

- When a school's population exceeds the facility utilization for the campus an enrollment cap would be placed on the school to prevent school overcrowding.
- Schools designated with a **Partial Cap** would prohibit enrollment of any new non-base students to enroll at the school.
- Schools designated with a **Full Cap** would prohibit enrollment of any new student to enroll at the school.
- Board Policy 6204 will be followed in the event a school is designated with a Full Cap.
- A Partial enrollment cap would be placed on a school when the student population reaches 100% facility utilization.
- After a partial enrollment cap has been implemented, the following facility utilization percentages will be used as "triggers" for central office staff and school based administrators to meet to determine a full-cap enrollment number for the school. The Board of Education will be asked to approve the full-cap enrollment number for a school in accordance with Board Policy 6204.

School Level	Partial Cap (non-base students) Facility Utilization	Full Cap (all students) Facility Utilization Triggers
Elementary	100%	105%
Middle	100%	110%
High	100%	110%

- Schools designated by the Board of Education as fully capped would not be available to non-base or base students. There is the potential for a school to be capped during the Base Declaration period, depending on the number of requests.
- The designated “overflow” school(s) for any fully capped school would be determined by looking at the facility utilizations of the elementary schools in the area and their ability to absorb the overflow for a period of time until enrollment relief at the base school can be achieved.
- The designated “overflow” school(s) would be determined with consideration given to allowing cohorts of students to move together from elementary to middle school and from middle school to high school.
- District transportation would be provided to any students assigned to the designated overflow school(s).

7. Magnet Application Period:

- An application period for magnet schools, early colleges, and leadership schools would occur each spring after the Base Declaration period.
- Students who wish to attend one of our magnet, early college, or leadership schools may participate in the Magnet application process.
- District transportation is available for many of these schools. Parents can view

their magnet choices and transportation status by going to the Address Look-up on the district website.

- Families who enroll after the magnet application period can request placement in a magnet school by contacting the Office of Student Assignment.

- Magnet Selection Priorities:

Priority 1: Incoming K, 6th, and 9th siblings of current students wanting assignment to the same school (guaranteed if the request is made during the magnet application period)

Priority 2: Group 2 and Group 3 magnet students rising into 6th or 9th grade that have attended a Group 2 or Group 3 magnet elementary school or middle school whose first choice is the magnet middle or high school for their magnet program pathway

Priority 3: Group 1, 2, and 3 magnet students rising into 6th or 9th grade whose first choice is a magnet middle or high school other than their program pathway.

Priority 4: Group 1, Group 2, and Group 3 base students rising into 6th or 9th grade that have attended a Group 1, Group 2 or Group 3 magnet elementary school or middle school whose first choice is the magnet middle or high school for their magnet program pathway

Priority 5: Students residing in an area designated as “high-performing” whose first-choice school is a magnet school

Priority 6: Students whose base school is severely overcrowded and select a magnet school

8. Open Enrollment Period:

- An application period for an Open Enrollment would occur each spring after the magnet application period.
- Families can request placement to any school in the district that is not designated as capped.

- Schools that are partially capped will not be available for Open Enrollment students.
- District transportation will be available for some schools. Parents can view their school choices with district transportation by going to the Address Look-up on the district website after the Base Declaration period.
- Families who enroll after the Open Enrollment application period can submit a request through the Office of Student Assignment if they want to attend a school other than their base assignment.

- Open Enrollment Priorities:

Priority 1: Incoming K, 6th, and 9th siblings of current non-base students wanting assignment to the same school if you chose this as your only choice

and the request is made during the school selection period (guaranteed, unless the school is partially capped)

Priority 2: Students residing in an area with historical proficiency data that is ten or more points below the county average whose first-choice school is a regional school choice (guaranteed, unless the school is capped)

Priority 3: “Stay where you start” – Existing students requesting grandfathering when they have been assigned to a new school if you make this request during the school selection period (guaranteed). Parent must provide transportation. *

Priority 4: Students requesting assignment for K to the same school where they attended preschool if their preschool was not their base school.

Priority 5: Students attending an elementary school whose base middle school is not a calendar match and who select a middle school that continues their elementary school calendar

Priority 6: Students whose base school is severely overcrowded and select a school that is not overcrowded as their first choice

Priority 7: Calendar option – Students selecting “calendar choice” during the school selection period

*Students entering a school after the Open Enrollment period will be eligible to grandfather if assigned to a new school.

9. Waitlists

- A waitlist would be maintained for students who are capped out of their base school. See R&P 7204.
- A waitlist would be maintained for students who did not get seated in their first choice magnet school.
- A waitlist would be maintained for students who did not get seated in their first choice school during the Open Enrollment period.
- Magnet and Open Enrollment waitlists would be processed once and then dissolved.

10. Opening new schools

- The opening of a new school creates challenges and concerns for parents and for the school district. Efficient utilization of our school buildings and student stability become opposing forces as new schools are opened. The school district, upon opening the new school, will define a base attendance area and reassign existing students to the new school. For families, student stability can be maintained with the district “**stay where you start**” practice, allowing existing students to grandfather back to their previous school. For families participating in grandfathering, district transportation will not be provided.
- The opening of a new elementary school will assign all K – 5 students in the base attendance area to the new school.
- The opening of a new middle school will assign all 6 – 8 to the new school.
- The opening of a new high school will assign all 9 – 10 students to the new school.

- Existing students reassigned to the new school may request to grandfather at their previous school by entering the Open Enrollment process. (Rising 1st – 5th, rising 7th and 8th and rising 10th). **Students grandfathering at their previous school will not be provided district transportation.**
- Entering grade siblings (K, 6, and 9) of existing students who grandfather may enter the choice selection process to be assigned to the same school their older sibling attends (guaranteed).

11. Soft Transition:

- Upon approval of the base attendance areas by the Board of Education, new families to Wake County enrolling for the first time and existing families with a change of address (that causes them to lose their district transportation) can register and enroll at their base school for their address.
- Existing students not currently attending their base school may request assignment to their base school for the 2013-14 school year by participating in the Base Declaration process.
- Families whose base attendance area is one of the two new schools, Abbotts Creek ES or Rolesville HS, will enroll and complete the 2012-13 school year at Wakefield ES or Wake Forest Rolesville HS.

12. Students with disabilities (SWDs)

- SWDs can participate in the Magnet and Open Enrollment process. Students with disabilities who are served in regional programs will have choices based on their program needs as defined by the Student Assignment Plan for SWDs.
- SWDs served in a regional program will have an assignment pattern based on their program needs and be pre-assigned in sixth grade to the middle school that continues their program needs and for the 2014-15 school year pre-assigned in ninth grade to the high school that continues their program needs.

- SWDs, assigned to a school for a regional program, can remain at that school through the terminating grade, with district transportation, even if they no longer need the services of the regional program
- SWDs no longer needing a regional program can participate in the Base Declaration process for assignment to their base school or in the Open Enrollment process if they want a change in school assignment for the next school year.
- Students returning to a local program from Longview, Bridges, River Oaks, or Mt. Vernon, or a PATH program will be eligible to grandfather to the school that referred them unless they are moving to the next level. This student may participate in the Base Declaration process for assignment to their base school or in the Open Enrollment process if they want a change in school assignment for the next school year.

13. Information available on the district website:

- Address look-up to see your proposed elementary, middle, and high school assignment for your address.
- School profile data for each base attendance area.

14. Board of Education Public Hearings on the proposed base attendance plan:

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Monday, Sept 24	North Garner Middle School	6:30 – 9:00
Wednesday, Sept 26	Leesville Rd High School	6:30 – 9:00
Saturday, Sept 29	Ligon Magnet Middle School	11:00 – 1:30
Thursday, October 4	Panther Creek High School	6:30 – 9:00
Monday, October 8	Rolesville Middle School	6:30 – 9:00

